

REGINA DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB
Minutes of Board Meeting held at the Club October 19, 2024

Present: Ron Miller, Sandy Bingaman, Lorna Bingaman, Frank Fries, Geri Skilnick., Gaylene Spence, Don Norman
Regrets: Avinash Bhende, Larry McCormick, Leslie Mortin

Ron Miller called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

1. **Approval of the agenda as circulated,:** moved by Geri, seconded by Gaylene. **Carried.**

2. **Approval of June 15 minutes:** moved by Gaylene, seconded by Lorna. **Carried.**

3. President's Report

Ron reported that our tax number from CRA has arrived and gave it to Lorna to deal with changing our year-end date to April 30 and then preparing to submit a tax return for the year. He also noted that Conexus now has notification of the appropriate signatories for our accounts.

4. Financial Report

Lorna reported that attendance numbers remain good and that the club continues to have a small surplus each month. She also said she had been unable to reinvest our GICs as previously discussed until the signing authorities were in place, but she could now do this. Lorna moved and Geri seconded that we keep our one-year 4% GIC until maturity in June and that the other redeemable one be reinvested for either 6 or 18 months, depending on interest rates available. **Carried.**

5. Directors

Ron and Don have worked out a schedule for directors until December 31 with all games covered, because Cal MacLeod and Pam Keim have agreed to come out of retirement. Also, two individuals have indicated they will be writing the exam to qualify as directors soon, so we will then have two more people to share the load in 2025.

6. Upcoming events:

The board agreed that Friday November 15 would be the best date for our annual memorial event to acknowledge members who have passed away over the past year, and Ron agreed to find a presenter for this event and purchase flowers.

Ron then asked for suggestions for a date and format for our Christmas party. After discussion it was agreed that a pot-luck with members asked to bring appetizers and desserts was best, and he would ask Claire Jones which of the first two Tuesdays evenings in December would be best for him. Also, the club will provide soft drinks at no cost that night.

7. Tuesday night games

Ron reported that both the open team game and learning games have attracted enough players to allow them to continue for the present time and to ask Claire for his feed-back about these before the next meeting.

8. 2025 sanctions and other club management issues

Manager Don Norman stated that he has to renew our ACBL sanctions soon and asked if we wanted to continue to pay for these for Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings when we no longer hold games. It was agreed to omit these for now with the provision that we could get them later if there seemed to be interest in these games.

He also pointed out that several of the games which we acknowledge as club championships are named after players who donated trophies for them several years ago, while others are just called the Tuesday afternoon championship, etc. He asked if we wanted to be consistent with these names, but there was no firm commitment either way. It was agreed to get information about the bridge careers of the benefactors and make this information part of the presentations at our AGM.

Don also suggested a change in the categories for the Thursday afternoon “4 is Enuf” game, lowering the start of the middle category from 750 points to 500, starting in 2025. Geri so moved and Sandy seconded this. **Carried.**

Don explained the ACBL’s new policies for attracting members, which offer free membership to players completing lessons, lasting until they obtain 20 points and then charging a low rate for the first year after that. It is to our club’s benefit to promote this policy for two reasons: we get credits for each new member which when they reach ten get us a free game with extra masterpoints, and we also get a cash credit of \$10 U.S. as well. Gaylene agreed to discuss this with her students and encourage them to join.

9. Committee Reports

9.1 Promotions and public relations—no report

9.2 Game management –no report

9.3 Facility Management—no report

9.4 Education

Gaylene reported that she had a very successful open house with 17 attendees, and has now had four lessons with attendance ranging from 24-34, 12 of whom she feels will soon want to start playing in regular games. She has had several club members helping out at lessons, important with these large numbers. She credits new initiatives such as the large sign on Broadway Avenue and free plays from the unit to members who have recommended the lessons to friends, as well as our traditional recruiting measure of ads in the LeaderPost. She has plans for another set of beginner lessons starting in March.

10. Club Management

Frank noted that so far our plan to have our broken chairs mended has not yet been implemented, and Ron said he would follow up on this.

11. Next meeting

Saturday, January 18, 2025, at 10:00.

Meeting moved adjourned by Frank at 11:50.